



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Public Affairs  
Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Illinois, Indiana  
Michigan, Minnesota  
Ohio, Wisconsin

## This Fact Sheet Will Tell You:

- The cleanup schedule.
- How the Skinner Landfill will be cleaned up.
- How to get more information.

## For More Information

You may review detailed information about the Skinner Landfill Superfund Site at the information repositories. The repositories are located at:

West Chester Public Library  
7900 Cox Road  
West Chester, OH

West Chester Township  
9100 Centre Point Drive  
Suite 280  
West Chester, OH

## Web Site

This and additional updates can also be found on the following web site:

[www.epa.gov/region5/sites/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/)

Scroll through the list to find Skinner Landfill Superfund Site.



# Skinner Landfill Cleanup to Begin

West Chester, Ohio

April 2001

## Introduction

The Skinner Landfill Superfund Site is located one-half mile south of the intersection of I-75 and Cincinnati-Dayton Road in West Chester, Ohio. It is bordered on the south by the East Fork of Mill Creek, on the east by railroad tracks, on the west by Cincinnati-Dayton Road, and on the north by wooded land.

The landfill operated from 1934 to 1990. Sometime during the years of operation, hazardous waste was received. That waste contained contaminants such as benzene, chloroform, and trichloroethene. The site needs to be cleaned up because these contaminants have leaked into the ground water near a former waste lagoon area on site.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the Ohio EPA will oversee a cleanup at the Skinner site this year. The actual work will be done and funded by a group of parties considered potentially responsible for contamination at the site (referred to as PRPs).

## Consent Decree Timeframe

In late May 2000, a legal agreement, called a consent decree, outlining the terms of the cleanup between U.S. EPA and the PRPs was filed in federal court. The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) then held a 30-day public comment period on the consent decree. The comment period was announced by DOJ in the "Federal Register" and ran from June 9 to July 10, 2000. It was extended through August 15. U.S. EPA and DOJ were required to respond to comments in writing before a judge could enter the consent decree into federal court record. In an April 2 hearing in federal court in Cincinnati, a judge determined that the cleanup is protective of human health and the environment, and signed the consent decree. This legal process had to be completed before the cleanup could begin. At that time, the judge also entered a decree resolving the liability of several municipalities that sent household trash and debris to the Skinner site. This agreement was reached under U.S. EPA's municipal waste policy.

## Cleanup Activities and Schedule

The cleanup process will begin this month with project initiation and mobilization which involves bringing in trailers to serve as mobile offices and connecting phone lines and electricity. Trees and bushes will also be removed and the land will be cleared to prepare for a cap to be installed on top of the landfill. In addition, monitoring wells will be constructed.

Since the Union Elementary School is near the site, construction activities that might cause the most waste and soil disturbance will be done as much as possible during the summer months when school is not in session.

Next, a trench will be installed south of the landfill. It will intercept ground water as it flows toward the East Fork of Mill Creek. The trench will have three wells that will pump the ground water to a sewer which will connect to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). The trench will be completed in late summer.

Cap installation will run from late May until late October. The cap will consist of a synthetic clay layer, a drainage layer, and a layer of topsoil and grass. The purpose of the cap is to keep rain, snow, etc. from getting into the landfill and potentially carrying contaminants down through the soil and into the ground water.

## Emergency Plan and Monitoring Program

An emergency plan (called a contingency plan) was developed in cooperation with local officials. The plan outlines who will be contacted in the event of an emergency, how they will be contacted, and what action(s) might be taken. A draft of the plan was submitted to the township, fire, and police departments and the school district for their review and comment. The plan was finalized in late March. Each will have their own copy. Additional copies will be available at the local information

repositories listed under "For More Information" on the front of this fact sheet.

If there is any need to take emergency action, the police or fire departments will notify area residents and businesses.

Air monitoring will be done continuously during excavation and earth-moving activities at the site. Samples will be taken at a location downwind of the site at the edge of the work area and at a location off site near the elementary school. An upwind location will also be monitored to determine the general air quality in the area. Daily readings will be taken.

Ground-water monitoring will begin after construction of the cleanup (trench, cap, etc.) is complete. Monitoring will then continue for the next 30 years. During the first two years, ground-water sampling will be done quarterly. After that, monitoring will be done once or twice annually.

### Contact Information

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